REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 7 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. These claims have been amended to overcome the rejection under §101, as each claim has been amended to include the subject matter of a dependent claim indicated to include statutory subject matter.

Pending claims 1, 7 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent Number 5,471,626 (Carnevale). The above amendment to claims 1, 7 and 13 further overcome this rejection.

All pending claims further stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Number 4,740,893 (Buchholz) in view of Carnevale. This rejection is improper, as the cited art, alone or in combination, nowhere teaches or suggests the claimed subject matter. In this regard, the Office Action concedes that the primary reference, Buchholz nowhere teaches or suggests the location of an update indicator storage within a single register to identify an update to another portion of the register. Instead, the Office Action relies on the map field of Carnevale for an alleged teaching of an indicator bit of an update indicator within a portion of a register that is updated. This is incorrect for several reasons.

First, map field 126 of Carnevale does not indicate updates. Instead, Carnevale teaches that this map field 126 is used to indicate presence of control field types in a control word. Carnevale, col. 7, lns. 6-11. Such map field 126 is used in Carnevale to control what execution stages within a processor pipeline the control word 124 enters. Carnevale, col. 7, lns. 16-19. Accordingly, the map field is not an update indicator.

Second, map field 126 does not indicate whether data in a different portion of a register is updated. In fact, it appears that the opposite is the case. That is, control fields within control word 124 (apparently contended to be the first portion of the register) can be updated without affecting the corresponding bit within map field 126. For example, address generation control field 130 can have its values changed (i.e., a data update) and the corresponding A bit of map field 126 will not change, as map field 126 only indicates control field *presence*, not control field *data updates*, as recited by claim 1. Thus if a control field is present and its data is updated, the corresponding bit of map field 126 does not change.

As even the combined references do not teach or suggest the claimed subject matter, the rejection is overcome. MPEP §2143.03. Claim 1 is further patentable as there is no motivation to combine Carnevale with Buchholz. In this regard, Buchholz is concerned with vector registers

in a vector processor, while the system of Carnevale, and more particularly the control word 124 would not have any use in the vector processor of Buchholz. In this regard, the control word of Carnevale is used for control of what execution stages within a processor pipeline the control word 124 enters. Simply put, how could this be used in Buchholz, without changing the principle of operation of that system? MPEP §2143.01.

Furthermore, what motivation exists to incorporate the vector change bits of Buchholz into Buchholz's vector registers? Clearly, none exists in Buchholz, as this scalar indicator would have no purpose (and instead would frustrate normal operation) of the vector registers and processor of Buchholz. Certainly, Carnevale nowhere teaches or suggests application of its control word to a vector processor. For at least these reasons, the rejection of claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom is improper. For similar reasons, so too are the remaining independent claims and their dependent claims patentable. Similarly, the rejection of certain dependent claims over Buchholz in view of Carnevale and additional secondary references is also overcome.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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